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ABSTRACT

Presented in this document is the interview form used to generate information from parents participating in the Life Style Study, an investigation designed to discover and interpret the home conditions under which young children in the English-speaking Caribbean, especially the underprivileged, are nurtured. The interview consists of seven sections seeking information about family characteristics (number of children, marital status, educational level, and so on), employment, home conditions and family interactions, amount of time children interact with their peers, parent attitudes toward general childrearing practices, child development, and the interviewer's observations of the home. (MP)

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THE BERNARD VAN LEER FOUNDATION
CENTRE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(CECE)

LIFE STYLE STUDY

CHILDREN OF THE LESSER WORLD
IN THE
ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

PARENT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
(PAINTS)

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1980

PS013440

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LIFE STYLE STUDY

HOUSEHOLDS OF 0-3 YEAR OLDS

PARENT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
(PAINTS)

To the INTERVIEWER:

Please interview the female parent or guardian of the child. If there is no female parent or guardian, as head of the household, then interview the male head. Because this is an important Project which is likely to add to our knowledge and understanding of the life style of our 0-3 year old underprivileged children, you are asked to visit the household as many as THREE times, if necessary, in order to obtain the interview with the head.

INTERVIEWER:_____ CODE # ☐☐

SAMPLE REGION:_____ CODE # ☐☐

COMMUNITY TYPE:_____ CODE # ☐

INTERVIEW NUMBER ☐☐☐

RECORD OF CALLS

Calls	Date	Hour	Status* (a) Use 1, 2 or 3	Cooperativeness* (b) Use 1, 2 or 3
First				
Second				
Third				

*(a) Status of Interview 1. completed
2. not available
3. refused

*(b) (1) Cooperative - friendly, relaxed, volunteered information readily

(2) Slightly un-cooperative - answered questions but showed some defensiveness

(3) Very un-cooperative - showed tenseness, defensiveness and resistance to interview

DATE OF INTERVIEW ---------- DAY | | MONTH | YEAR | | |

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW (in minutes)---------- | |

NOTE ANY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING THIS INTERVIEW.

SECTION 1

FAMILY INFORMATION

1. List members of the household 12 years old and over, and under 12 years, by relation or connection to the child.

Names	Age last birthday	Relation, or Connection (R/C) to the CHILD and Educational level (EL)*	Sex	For those children in household under 12 yrs. only	(Age in months)	
				Name (N) and Relation (R/C)	Age	Sex
a) The CHILD (0-3 year old)				N_____ R/C		
b) Interviewee		R/C_____ EL		N_____ R/C		
c)		R/C_____ EL		N_____ R/C		
d)		R/C_____ EL		N_____ R/C		
e)		R/C_____ EL		N_____ R/C		
f)		R/C_____ EL		N_____ R/C		
g)		R/C_____ EL		N_____ R/C		

*Pre-Primary = Prep; Primary = P; Secondary = S; Tertiary = T

2. Parents' marital status: Mother and Father are:

(a) Married_____ (d) In common-law union_____

(b) Unmarried_____ (e) Separated/divorced_____

(c) Widow_____

3. Is the child's mother living in the household? ☐ No ☐ Yes (if yes, go to question 4)

(a) Where is she?_____

(b) How old was the child when she left? ☐☐ months.

4. Is the child's father living in the household?

No ☐ Yes ☐ (if yes, go to question 5)

(a) Where is he?_____

(b) How old was the child when he left ☐☐ months.

5. Is the father of this child the father of your other children? Yes ☐ No ☐

For male head who is father of the child: (a) Are you the father of children who are not members of this household?

Yes ☐ No ☐

(b) If yes, how many? ☐☐ (c) In how many other households? ☐☐

6. Did any member of the household have education at the tertiary level?

(a) Yes ☐ No ☐

(b) If yes, who? (Relationship)_____

(c) Where?_____

7. Did any member of the household have education at the Secondary level?

(a) Yes ☐ No ☐

(b) If yes, who?(Relationship)_____

(c) Where?_____

8. (a) At what age did you leave Primary School? _____years

(b) If before age 15, why?_____

_____

(c) What class (grade) were you in then? Class/Grade_____

9. How many children under 12 years old in the household are
   (a) attending Primary school B____ G____ Total____
   (b) attending a Pre-primary institution: B____ G____ Total____

10. Did the mother visit a clinic during pregnancy?

    Yes ☐ No ☐

11. If yes, how frequently:
    (a) during pregnancy? ☐☐
    (b) during the first six months after the birth of the child? _____

12. How old was the mother when she had:
    (a) her first child ☐☐ years
    (b) this child ☐☐ years

13. Has the child ever been so ill that he had to be taken to the doctor/clinic? Yes ☐ No ☐

14. If yes:

How old was the child then?	What was wrong?
(a) ☐☐ months	i) _____
(b) ☐☐ months	ii) _____
(c) ☐☐ months	iii) _____
(d) ☐☐ months	iv) _____

SECTION 2

EMPLOYMENT

1. Are you employed?

Yes ☐ → Enter details in column 5 (b), (c), (d), (e) below

No ☐ → Leave column 5 (b), (c), (d), (e) blank

	Other Members of the Household				Interviewee	
	1	2	3	4	5	
(a) List any other member of the household that is employed (1-4)						
(b) How many months during the year?						(b)
(c) What job provides the main source of income?						(c)
(d) How much does it pay per WEEK?	$____	$____	$____	$____	$____	(d)
(e) Relationship of each of other members (1, 2, 3, 4) of household to the child						(e)

2. What is the total weekly income for the household? $_____

SECTION 3

HOME CONDITIONS and INTERACTION

1. Which of the following persons help with the rearing of the child? For what portion of the day? In each case indicate how much of the day (tick the appropriate column). If the person does not help at all place a tick in the first column (0)

	(0) No	Small part of day: 0-25%	Good part of day: 26-50%	Most of the day: 51-75%	Almost all day: 76-100%
a) grandmother					
b) grandfather					
c) aunt					
d) brother or sister					
e) neighbour					
f) maid/nurse					
g) other (specify)					

2. a) How many hours per day is the chief 'caretaker' parent away from home? [ ][ ] hours

b) Where and with whom is the child left during this time?

i) Where?_____

ii) With whom? (Relationship) _____

3. (i) Does the child:

a) have h-- own bed? Yes ☐ No ☐

b) share bedroom with other children, but has h-- own bed? Yes ☐ No ☐

c) share bedroom with other children and parents, but has h-- own bed? Yes ☐ No ☐

d) share a bed with other children? Yes ☐ No ☐

(ii) The child shares a bed with (specify if none of (b), (c), (d)) _____

_____

4. At what time does the child's bedtime begin?

a) between 6 pm and 7 pm ____
b) between 7 pm and 8 pm ____
c) between 8 pm and 9 pm ____
d) between 9 pm and 10 pm ____
e) after 10 pm ____
f) other (specify) at -----pm ____

5. At what time do you expect the child to wake in the mornings?

a) before 6 am ____
b) between 7 am and 8 am ____
c) between 8 am and 9 am ____
d) other (specify) at -----am ____

6. a) Are you a member of a library, now? Yes ☐ No ☐

b) Were you at anytime a member of a library?

Yes ☐ No ☐

c) How many people in the household are library members? ☐☐

7. About how many books are in the home?

a) for adults ☐☐☐

b) for children ☐☐☐

8. Which of the following do you have in your home?

(a) Television_____
(b) Radio _____
(c) Record Player____
(d) Gas/electric stove_____
(e) Electric iron_____
(f) Refrigerator_____
(g) other (specify)_____

Use this key to respond to questions 9 and 10:

SD = Several time a day;
OD = Once every day or almost everyday;
OW = About once a week;
LW = Less than once per week

9. How often does an adult:

		SD	OD	OW	LW
a) talk quietly and pleasantly with the child	(a)				
b) tell the child a story	(b)				
c) have a meal together with the child	(c)				
d) read a book or newspaper in the presence of the child	(d)				
e) read the Bible/sing a hymn in the presence of the child	(e)				
f) say prayers with the child	(f)				
g) help the child read a picture book	(g)				
h) listen to the radio with the child	(h)				
i) watch a TV programme with the child	(i)				
j) play a record for the child	(j)				
k) hug and cuddle the child	(k)				

10. Under what condition(s) does the mother or any other adult cuddle the child?

		SD	OD	OW	LW
a) At meal times.	Mother				
	other adult				
b) When the child cries.	Mother				
	other adult				
c) When the child is ill.	Mother				
	other adult				
d) Under normal conditions.	Mother				
	other adult				
e) Other (specify)	Mother				
	other adult				

11. Which of these materials are provided at home for the child's use? (Tick the ones that are)

(a) paint____ (h) paper____
(b) crayons____ (i) clay____
(c) chalk_____ (j) puzzles____
(d) pencils____ (k) books_____
(e) sand_____ (l) blocks_____
(f) putty_____ (m) balls_____
(g) plasticine____
(Others (specify) (n) _____
(o) _____

Use this key to respond to questions 12, 13, 14. (Tick the appropriate column)

(ED = Everyday;
ND = Nearly everyday;
OW = About once a week
LW = less than once a week

12. How often does the child:

		ED	ND	OW	LW
a) watch a TV programme on h-- own	(a)				
b) watch an educational TV programme	(b)				
c) watch the TV news	(c)				
d) listen to a radio programme	(d)				

13. How often do you arrange for and/or allow the child to do the following?

		ED	ND	OW	LW
a) play party games	(a)				
b) read picture books	(b)				
c) play with jig-saw-puzzles, blocks, clay etc.	(c)				
d) use crayons, paints	(d)				
e) swing, climb, jump	(e)				
f) throw and catch	(f)				
g) ----------	(g)				
h) ----------	(h)				

Specify others under (g) and (h)

14. How often do you or other adults participate in any of these activities with the child?

		ED	ND	OW	LW
a) play party games	(a)				
b) read picture books	(b)				
c) play with jig-saw puzzles,- blocks, clay etc.	(c)				
d) use crayons, paints	(d)				
e) swing, climb, jump	(e)				
f) throw and catch	(f)				
g) ----------	(g)				
h) ----------	(h)				

Specify others under (g) and (h)

SECTION 4

INTERACTION WITH PEERS

1. Approximately how many hours per day does the child spend with h-- playmates/friends?

☐☐ hours per day

2. How many times per month does the child go to Sunday School or Church?

☐☐ times per month

---

3. (i) Does the child go to any other place where he would meet other children?

Yes ☐ No ☐

(ii) If yes, where? _____

4. Children in h-- playgroup are mostly (tick the appropriate ones)

(a) boys____ (d) brothers____
(b) girls____ (e) friends____
(c) sisters____ (f) Other relatives____

5. How many children normally make up the group? ☐☐

6. Has the child ever (a) had a party? Yes ☐ No ☐

(b) attended a party of a friend?

Yes ☐ No ☐

SECTION 5

RELEVANT PARENT ATTITUDES

1. To what extent do you agree with the following:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a) I am too poor for my child to succeed in school (a)				
b) Too much love and attention will spoil the child (b)				
c) In pre-school, children should study more and play less (c)				
d) Children must be seen and not heard (d)				
e) Children must obey their parents and behave themselves (e)				
f) Don't spare the rod and spoil the child (f)				
g) Parents should bring up their children the same way they were brought up (g)				
h) Even at this age, boys must behave differently from girls (h)				
i) A child must not give up his right, he must learn to fight with other children (i)				
j) A child must not be allowed to interrupt adult conversation (j)				

Use this key to respond to question 2.

VO = Very often; S = Sometimes

NA = Now and again; N = Never

2. Is your child

		VO	S	NA	N
(a) stubborn	(a)				
(b) a comfort to you	(b)				
(c) loving	(c)				
(d) well behaved	(d)				
(e) disobedient	(e)				
(f) Other (specify)	(f)				

---

3. How desirable do you consider each of the following to be for your child?

That the child -		Very Desirable	Desirable	Not really necessary	Not at all necessary
a) should be good at school work	(a)				
b) should be considerate of others	(b)				
c) should have self control	(c)				
d) should be happy	(d)				
e) should be dependable	(e)				
f) should be ambitious	(f)				
g) should obey h-- parents well	(g)				
h) should be popular with other children	(h)				
i) should be able to defend h--self	(i)				
j) should be curious about things around h--	(j)				

Use this key to respond to questions 4 and 5.

AT = All the times; MT = Most of the time;
ST = Sometimes; HE = Hardly ever;
N = Never

4. How do you discipline the child when he/she does something wrong?

	AT	MT	ST	HE	N
a) Explain why it is wrong and tell the child not to do it again (a)					
b) Flog the child with a strap, a shoe, or any such thing near to hand (b)					
c) Slap the child with the hand (c)					
d) Shout and curse the child (d)					
e) Lock up the child by h--self (e)					
f) Tell the child that the 'bogeyman' will take h-- away (f)					
g) Tell father and let him handle the case (g)					
h) Threaten the child with "wait till you go to school" (h)					
i) Other (specify)---------- (i) ----------					

5. What do you do when the child does something which pleases you?

	AT	MT	ST	HE	N
a) Pick up the child and hug h-- (a)					
b) ---------- (b)					
c) ---------- (c)					
d) Nothing (d)					

(Write in any other responses under b) and c)

SECTION 6

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

1. Would you say that the child is:

	Very much so	Somewhat/ Sometimes	Not very much	Not at all
a) nervous? (a)				
b) very active (b)				
c) shy, especially in the company of adults? (c)				
d) restless, always moving, pulling, touching? (d)				
e) aggressive, especially toward other children? (e)				
f) kindly disposed to others? (sharing, etc.) (f)				
g) able to defend h--self? (g)				
h) able to express h-- self freely? (h)				
i) inclined to be by h--self frequently? (i)				
j) easily discouraged/ bored? (j)				
k) possessive of people and or things? (k)				
l) an attention-seeker? (l)				
m) timid - always clinging to mother? (m)				
n) looking forward with enthusiasm to going to school? (n)				
o) Other (specify)-------(o) ----------				

2. Tick the appropriate description:

The Child:

(a) asks questions

often	sometimes
once in a while	not at all

(b) _____(b) generally replaces h-- toys after playing with them;

(c) _____(c) usually never replaces h-- toys after playing with them;

(d) needs much help in doing some things, like

i) buttoning clothes_____
ii) lacing shoes_____
iii) finding toys_____
iv) _____

(e) always endeavours to help h--self

(f) Other (specify)_____

3. At what age in months:

(a) did the mother stop breast feeding h--? ☐☐ months

(b) did you begin to teach h-- how to use the toilet?

☐☐ months

(c) did -he begin to **walk independently?** ☐☐ months

(d) did he begin to **talk clearly?** ☐☐ months

4. (a) Does -he frequently pine after you?

(i) often	(ii) sometimes
(iii) once in a while	(iv) not at all

(b) If (i), (ii) or (iii), under what circumstance?

When_____

_____

_____

SECTION 7

INTERVIEWER'S OBSERVATION OF HOME

The Interviewer will complete this Section on the basis of his/her personal observation only. Tick the appropriate description(s).

1. The home in which the child lives is:

   i) a) an apartment in a tenement building, needing repairs (a)____

   b) a house in a tenement yard, needing repairs (b)____

   c) an apartment in a tenement building, in good condition (c)____

   d) a house in a tenement yard, in good condition (d)____

   e) a house on its own lot, needing repairs (e)____

   f) a house on its own lot, in good condition (f)____

   g) wooden house (g)____

   h) cement house (h)____

   i) Other (specify)_____(i)____

   ii) The house has ☐ bedrooms

2. The appearance of the house and premises is:

		House		Premises
a) shoddy	(a)	☐	(a)	☐
b) a bit disorganised	(b)	☐	(b)	☐
c) average in upkeep	(c)	☐	(c)	☐
d) quite neat and attractive	(d)	☐	(d)	☐
e) immaculate	(e)	☐	(e)	☐
f) Other (specify)_____	(f)	☐	(f)	☐

3. a) Did you see a bathroom? Yes ☐ No ☐

It was: i well kept, ii needed repairs, iii insanitary,

iv shared @ ☐ v attached to the house

vi 10 + yards from the house

b) Did you see a toilet?

It was: i well kept ii needed repairs iii insanitary

iv shared @ ☐ v attached to the house

vi water closet vii pit-latrine

@ State by what number of households e.g. shared / 3

4. The type, quantity and quality of the amenities give the impression that they:

a) provide less than basic needs (a) ☐
b) provide basic needs only (b) ☐
c) are adequate and satisfactory (c) ☐
d) are very comfortable (d) ☐

5. The neighbourhood:

i) a) is an appreciating residential area (a) ☐
b) is a depreciating residential area (b) ☐
c) is a slum area (c) ☐
d) is a rural village (d) ☐
e) other (specify)_____ (e) ☐

ii) a) has no playing facilities (a) ☐
b) has limited playing facilities (b) ☐
c) has adequate playing facilities (c) ☐
d) has surrounding open spaces in which children roam (d) ☐
e) other (specify) _____ (e) ☐

iii) Other observable features of the neighbourhood: (e.g. road, postal service, bus/train service, medical service, clubs, church, facilities for education and care of children, (Day Care and Basic and other schools), police station, industries/occupation, leisure habits of men/ women, children)

6. Other observable features of the household:

(a) Did you see the child during the interview -- did the child seem healthy, closely attached to mother/ interviewee, was -he allowed to speak, yelled at/ hit?

(b) Interviewee's appearance and speech,

(c) Anything about facilities and amenities and people (e.g. light, water) not covered in this schedule.

Signed:_____
Interviewer

Date:_____

7. Briefly describe any INCIDENTS, any COMMENTS, any OBSERVATIONS and IMPRESSIONS, any EXPRESSED HOPE/ DESPAIR, any LIVING CONDITIONS (not reflected in this Schedule) in connection with the interview/ interviewee that lifted you, that caused you much concern, that shocked you.

Signed:_____
Interviewer

Date:_____